

REMARKS

In an Office Action mailed on October 26, 2005 (the "Office Action"), the Examiner: (1) rejected claims 7-9 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by *Sugano (JP60200559)*; (2) rejected claims 10-14 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by *Sugano (5028986)*; and (3) has indicated allowance of claims 1-6.

(1) Regarding the Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Examiner rejected claims 7-9 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by *Sugano (JP60200559)*. Applicants have cancelled claims 7-9 rendering this rejection moot.

(2) Regarding the Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Examiner rejected claims 10-14 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by *Sugano (5028986)*. Applicants have cancelled claims 10-14 rendering this rejection moot.

CONCLUSION

The Applicants thank the Examiner for his indication of allowability of claims 1-6 and respectfully request a notice of allowance as to claims 1-6 at the Examiner's first convenience. The Office Action contains a number of statements potentially reflecting characterizations of various claims, supporting descriptions, and/or patent or patent application references. Regardless of whether any such statements are addressed in this response, Applicant declines to automatically subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Office Action.


The Applicants believe the application to now be in condition for allowance and respectfully request the same at the first convenience of the Examiner.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized by this written request to treat this or any concurrent or future reply that requires a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for its timely submission as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time. The Commissioner is further authorized to charge all required fees, including without limitation excess claim fees or other fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or any required extension of time fees or other fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17, to Deposit Account No. 50-3534, on which the undersigned is authorized to sign, and to treat such authorization to charge Deposit Account No. 50-3534 as a constructive petition for an extension of time in this or any concurrent or future reply requiring a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for its timely submission. The Commissioner is further hereby authorized to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3534.

Respectfully submitted,

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